

**East-West Corridor Project
Final Alignment Alternatives Study**

**Appendix F
Open House No. 2**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 16, 2010

Time: 4:00PM—7:00PM

Meeting: Open House No. 2

Location: Terrace Heights Grange
3701 West Birchfield Road
Yakima, Washington 98901

From: Jim Gladson, Marcus Elliott

ATTENDANCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Initials</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Gary Ekstedt	GNE	County	(509) 574-2300	gary.ekstedt@co.yakima.wa.us
Kent McHenry	KLM	County	(509) 574-2300	kent.mchenry@co.yakima.wa.us
Chris Walcott	CCW	BergerABAM	(206) 357-5624	chris.walcott@abam.com
Marcus Elliott	MRE	BergerABAM	(206) 357-5611	marcus.elliott@abam.com
Jim Gladson	JG	BergerABAM	(360) 823-6121	jim.gladson@abam.com
Ross Widener	RW	Widener	(425) 348-3059	rwidener@prodigy.net

Additionally, total of 42 project area residents attended the open house.

SUMMARY

This was the second open house sponsored by the Yakima County Department of Public Services (County) to inform the community about alternative options for the East-West Corridor (EWC) between the City of Yakima (City) and the Terrace Heights neighborhood.

This additional east-west route would relieve current congestion along Terrace Heights Avenue. It would also support future economic development by offering improved access to the former site of the Boise-Cascade mill, now being studied for mixed-use redevelopment. The route will require new crossings of the Yakima River and several irrigation canals.

Compared to the more general braided swath displayed at the open house in June, this second open house featured a more detailed look at the four corridor alternatives. County and BergerABAM staff displayed four large maps showing the alternative corridors under study, answered attendees' questions, and sought feedback on the proposed corridors. The County expects to select a corridor(s) in early 2011 for more detailed study during the project's environmental review process.

The County informed the public of the open house by:

- mailing approximately 3,000 flyers to owners of property near the proposed transportation corridor(s) and other interested stakeholders;
- placing Spanish-language flyers at key locations;
- contacting members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, including irrigation district and Terrace Heights community representatives; and
- including the open house and downloadable maps of the four corridor alternatives on the project website.

In response to requests heard at the first open house, the County developed and promoted an interactive project website that allows interested members of the public to view project information, download images of the four corridor alternatives, and comment online. Site visitors also had the opportunity to voice their corridor preferences using a thumbs-up or -down button, indicating their like or dislike of a particular corridor alternative.

The project website has supported additional community outreach and feedback. To date, the website has received 79 unique visits since going live in mid-November 2010. Site visitors have viewed a cumulative total of 551 pages, with the corridor map page being the most viewed. Average time on the site was more than 7 minutes, which indicates a thorough review of the site by visitors. A full summary of website usage through November 28, 2010 is available in a separate document.

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS

Representatives of Yakima County and BergerABAM staffed the four corridor maps, answered visitors' questions, and heard comments regarding each corridor. The Ridge Top corridor follows the less populated Yakima Ridge; the Rest Haven Bench is farther south and rises to follow along Rest Haven Road; the Ridge Base corridor is further south at the base of Rest Haven Ridge; and the Lowlands corridor is the southernmost option following the Columbia Basin Railroad.

People at the meeting generally supported the Ridge Top corridor, primarily because that route would have the least impact on existing homes. Many of the people at the meeting concluded that the other options would have direct construction impacts on their property or could degrade their property values through increased traffic, louder noise, or a restricted view. A few people did comment that the Ridge Top corridor was too far away from the population center to be useful, and that construction costs would be higher because of steep, unstable slopes. Some people did not have specific corridor preferences, but generally supported the concept of a new east-west corridor that relieved congestion and promoted economic development.

Three people filled out comment forms at the open house. The form had an open-ended request for feedback or questions. Five people submitted comments via the project website. These comments are included below. Eight people provided e-mail addresses via the website for future project updates.

WRITTEN COMMENTS (3)

"I prefer Ridge Top #1 route for the proposed east-west corridor. It is the least invasive toward property owners but yet still is an efficient route to move traffic. It also has the potential for new property development along the route. It will serve both new housing, businesses, and possible recreation sites."

Ronald V. Smith, 5403 Tumac Drive, Yakima

"My preference is Corridor 1 which would probably impact fewer people. The lowlands route would again decrease quality of life, view, and increase noise. Property values would definitely decrease w/that plan."

Jane Smith, 918 Adamsview, Yakima

"Alternative 4 goes right through my house. It looks like Alternative 1 would be the least disruptive."

Lynn Cosmos, 718 Butterfield Rd, Yakima

ONLINE COMMENTS VIA THE PROJECT WEBSITE (6)

Date: 1.12.11

Name: Walt Hoffman

Email: wphoffman@clearwire.net

Comment: Your team has approached this project with due diligence and from an engineering standpoint it seems quite professional. But where these neatly drawn lines on your maps intersect existing houses and established neighborhoods this is no longer just an engineering project. These are real peoples' homes, dreams and in many cases life savings that are threatened.

Of the four proposed routes for this project, one (# 3) goes through our property destroying our home of 25+ years. Bad as this is, it would actually be preferable to route # 2 which goes right alongside us to the East – devaluing our property and ruining our quality of life. Route # 4 is only slightly better for us but manages to trash our neighborhood and displace one of the pioneering families of this area. On the other hand, by transitioning the hillside higher up across mostly undeveloped land, route # 1, harms the fewest people and may actually increase the value of those properties on the hillside by greatly improving their access.

Although route # 1, may be the most challenging from an engineering perspective and possibly the most expensive, these drawbacks pale in comparison to the disruption and harm that will surely result from building any of the three lower routes. Unless the county is prepared to require the same sacrifice from all who will benefit from this project, to select routes 2, 3 or 4 because of possible cost savings is morally indefensible.

Make no mistake, even if route 1 is chosen, some of us will still be subjected to increased noise and light pollution – well beyond what would be generated by gradual residential development. We always envisioned houses being built on the hillside above us but not a major 4-lane arterial. Presumably this project is being driven by large new and planned developments such as Terrace Estates. Many of us in this neighborhood were living here when Terrace Estates consisted of 2 or 3 houses. There would seem to be an inherent unfairness for us to bear the brunt of this project\'s negatives while the newcomers in these developments enjoy all the benefits without any of the sacrifices. Also, by facilitating more of these developments, how long will it be before our wells in this area go dry?

By going public with these plans the county has essentially frozen our assets – rendering our properties virtually unsalable. No one but a speculator would buy property under such a cloud – and then only for pennies on the dollar. In addition, this “sword of Damocles” will hang over our heads until the final route is chosen. Any projects/improvements we had planned will have to be placed on hold for at least a year. It has been suggested that if they stuck a gun to our heads and threatened our life savings it would be quicker and we might even have a chance to fight back. Admittedly, most people might find this illustration to be a bit extreme but it begins to capture some of the fear and frustration generated by this project. Life is challenging enough without something like this thrust upon us.

This holiday season as family and loved ones gathered in our homes, we were also forced to entertain an unwanted guest -- the nagging question in the back of our minds – Will this be the last time? – Will our homes be gone next year or the one after that etc.

Please carefully consider the following question and let your decisions be guided by your honest response to it. Would you like this project to be built through YOUR neighborhood – adjacent to or through YOUR property?

Respectfully submitted,

Walt Hoffman
2605 Macias Ln.

Date: 11.28.10

Name: Brenda Widmyer

Email: bkw59@hotmail.com

Comment: The further south you place the corridor, the less sense it makes. The (future) upper Terrace Heights residents will still need to dip down into lower T. Hts. to exit to the west side. (What's the point of all that expense and chaos?) I thought this was to be an alternative route to lessen the stress of traffic to current roadways and communities.

The Nob Hill corridor is a considerable distance from Terrace Heights Drive, which makes sense. Shouldn't that same logic apply to the distance between the new corridor and Terrace Heights Drive?

Date: 11.23.10

Name: scott kline

Email: scottklineykm@gmail.com

Comment: Consider the inevitable result that eventually there will be no more space for roads. Any chance for being more proactive on public transportation instead of waiting until we are flush with road rage and gridlock?

Please don't forget bike lanes on whichever option you choose.

Date: 11.18.10

Name: Lynn Cosmos

Email: lynncosmos@gmail.com

Comment: Alternative route 4 goes right through my house. I am 67 years old and have lived in this house for over 35 years. No amount of money can compensate me for the loss of this home. This fertile river bottom land is the soil we need for growing our food. The ridge top would be a much more appropriate place for a road. I was told at the meeting this week that they can't widen

the existing Terrace Drive because they can't take the property of a business corridor. This business corridor land has already been paved over and destroyed, so it would also be more appropriate for a road.

Date: 11.17.10

Name: Jay

Email: cj2ajw@yahoo.com

Comment: I would like to see a traffic study done on N 33Rd ST before and after the connection to the new road.

Date: 11.17.10

Name: Dianne Fish

Email: diannefish@charter.net

Comment: One good thing about this project you have planned is I have been able to meet and interact with my neighbors because of this, and that is appreciated. Their views and suggestions are valuable. I would like to have the additional opportunity to view their thoughts and comments on the potential impact to our community, concerning the possible corridor chosen, and perhaps ideas on how to pay for the project, added to this page. I'm sure the people of our community would appreciate it.

Thank you in advance for adding this feature to your web site.

Dianne

Yakima County

East-West Corridor Project Update

FALL 2010

www.yakimaeastwestcorridor.com

In spring 2010, the Yakima County Department of Public Services began reaching out to the Terrace Heights community regarding the East-West Corridor. This new arterial roadway is proposed to connect Terrace Heights with Northeast Yakima and provide an alternative river crossing designed to relieve congestion and reduce delays on the existing Yakima Avenue/Terrace Heights Drive corridor, as the region continues its growth.

The County held a public open house on June 9, 2010. Over 100 area residents attended the event, along with representatives of various government agencies and community groups. Attendees were given a firsthand look at an exhibit showcasing a broad swath of land the County was considering for the location of the East-West Corridor. Several representatives from the County were on-hand to answer questions and explain the many engineering constraints and other challenges they face in designing and building a new roadway in this location. Public interest in the project was high, and many of the attendees filled out comment cards at the event. Most of their concerns

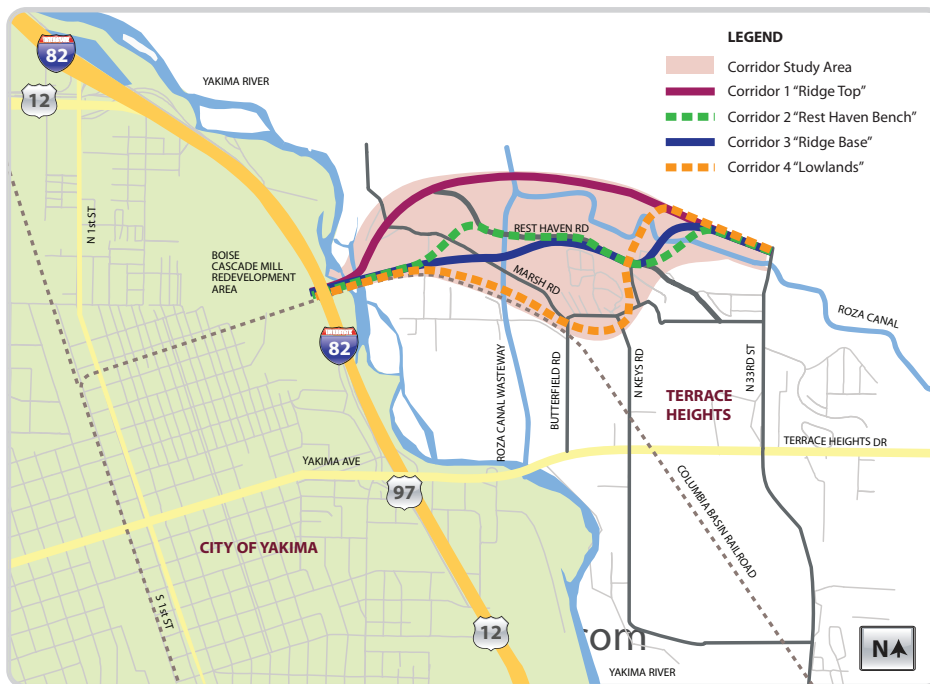
revolved around the new roadway's potential impacts to private property. Other comments dealt with possible impacts to the environment or quality of life, such as increased noise and/or traffic, and lack of public transit in the project area.

Over the summer, the County developed four (4) corridors that could address the transportation needs. County staff is currently in the process of weighing the pros and cons of each corridor to develop a recommendation for a preferred corridor. To that end, the County will host a second public open house. While the first event featured very general information and many potential corridors, this second event will offer the public a much closer look at the four (4) specific corridors from which the preferred corridor will be chosen.

In the winter of 2010-2011, the County will publish a Corridor Analysis Report that will summarize the County's work to evaluate and document the corridors that have been considered. This report will propose one or more of the four (4) corridors as the preferred corridor(s). In the spring of 2011, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the

County will begin conducting a series of reviews for environmental documentation under the NEPA process. NEPA is a lengthy process which requires County officials to conduct an in-depth analysis of all relevant environmental, cultural, and social factors involved in building a new roadway.

The NEPA review process is expected to take approximately 18 months. During that time, the County will again approach the public to solicit input. If you miss out on the chance to comment now, you will have another opportunity.



If you would like to learn more, please contact:
Kent McHenry, PE
(509) 574-2300 or kent.mchenry@co.yakima.wa.us

Para información en español por favor
llame a (509) 574-1000



Yakima County

Este-Oeste Corredor Proyecto de Actualización

OTOÑO 2010

www.yakimaeastwestcorridor.com

Durante la primavera del 2010, el Departamento de Servicios Públicos del Condado de Yakima comenzó a divulgar en la comunidad de Terrace Heights información sobre el Corredor Este-Oeste.

Esta nueva carretera arterial es propuesta para conectar Terrace Heights con el Noreste de Yakima y ofrecer una alternativa para cruzar el río, aliviar el congestionamiento y reducir los retrasos en el Corredor existente de la Avenida Yakima/Terrace Heights Drive, porque la región sigue en crecimiento.

El condado tuvo una Casa Abierta pública el 9 de junio del 2010. Más de 100 habitantes locales asistieron al evento, junto con los representantes de varias agencias gubernamentales y grupos comunitarios. Los presentes recibieron una mirada de primera mano de una exhibición que muestra una franja amplia de los terrenos del Condado bajo consideración para construir el Corredor Este-Oeste. Varios representantes del Condado estuvieron a la disposición para responder a las preguntas y explicar las muchas limitaciones de ingeniería y otros desafíos a los que se enfrentan al diseñar y construir una nueva ruta en este lugar. El interés público en este proyecto fue muy grande, y muchos de los presentes llenaron tarjetas con comentarios después del evento. La mayoría de sus preocupaciones

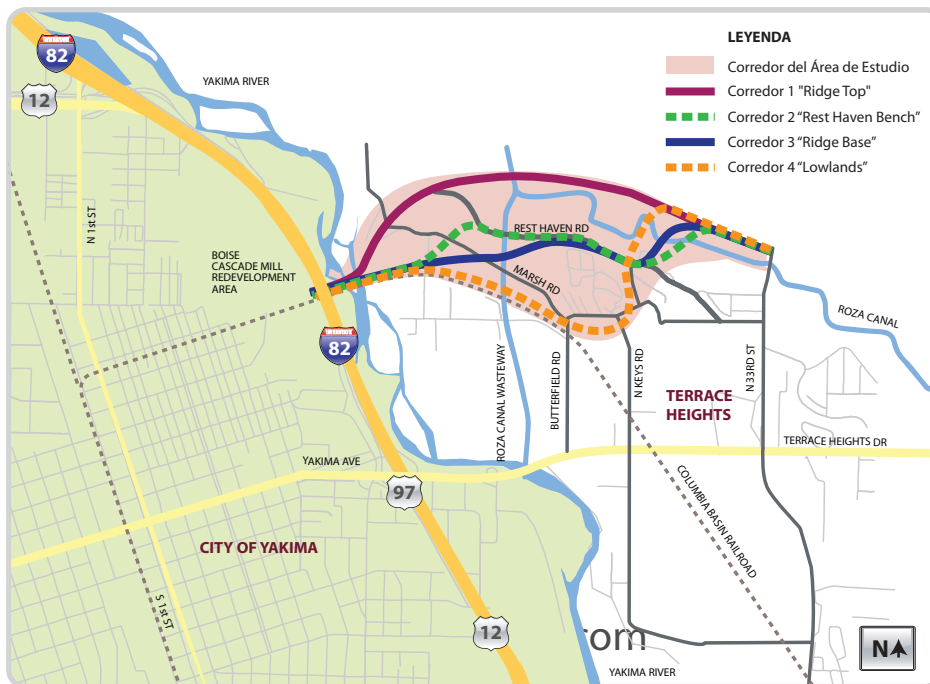
giraron alrededor de los posibles impactos de la nueva ruta en el medio ambiente y en la calidad de vida, por ejemplo el aumento en los ruidos y/o en el tráfico, y la falta de transportación pública en el área bajo consideración.

Durante el verano, el Condado desarrolló cuatro (4) corredores que podrían intentar resolver las necesidades de transporte. Los empleados del Condado se encuentran ahora en proceso de considerar las ventajas y desventajas de cada corredor para poder ofrecer una recomendación sobre el corredor de su preferencia. Con este fin, el Condado llevará a cabo una segunda Casa Abierta pública. Mientras que el primer evento presentó información muy general y muchos posibles corredores, este segundo evento ofrecerá al público una mirada más de cerca de los cuatro (4) corredores específicos de entre los cuales se va a escoger el corredor preferido.

Durante el invierno del 2010-2011, el Condado va a publicar un Reporte del Análisis del Corredor que resumirá el trabajo del condado para evaluar y documentar los corredores que han estado bajo consideración. Este reporte va a proponer uno o más de los cuatro (4) corredores como corredor(es) preferido(s). Durante la primavera del 2011, de acuerdo con la Reglamentación

Nacional del Medio Ambiente (NEPA, siglas en inglés), el Condado va a comenzar a conducir una serie de revisiones para la documentación ambiental bajo el proceso de NEPA. NEPA es un proceso muy largo que exige a los oficiales del Condado que conduzcan un análisis profundo de todos los factores relevantes para el medio ambiente, culturales y sociales involucrados en la construcción de una nueva carretera.

El proceso de revisión de NEPA se espera que se llevará aproximadamente unos 18 meses. Durante ese tiempo, el Condado nuevamente solicitará más opiniones y sugerencias del público. Si usted no tiene la oportunidad de comentar ahora, usted tendrá adelante otra oportunidad.



Si usted quiere saber más, por favor póngase en contacto con: Kent McHenry, PE
(509) 574-2300 | kent.mchenry@co.yakima.wa.us



Comment Form

Want to share some information, ask a question, or offer a comment about the East-West Corridor Project? Just fill out the form below and submit. Be sure to include your email address. Your comments will help guide selection of a preferred corridor for the new roadway. Thank you.

Would you like to receive project updates?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide contact information below.

Name

Address

City

State

Email

Zip

Please mail this comment form to:

Kent McHenry, PE
Yakima County Public Services Department
Transportation Engineering Manager
Yakima County Courthouse
128 North 2nd Street, Fourth Floor
Yakima, Washington 98901

For more information:

kent.mchenry@co.yakima.wa.us
(509) 574-2300



Comment Form

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Would you like to receive project updates?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide contact information below.

Name

Address

City

State

Email

Zip

Please mail this comment form to:

Kent McHenry, PE
Yakima County Public Services Department
Transportation Engineering Manager
Yakima County Courthouse
128 North 2nd Street, Fourth Floor
Yakima, Washington 98901

For more information:

kent.mchenry@co.yakima.wa.us
(509) 574-2300



Yakima County East-West Corridor

Open House
Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Sign In

FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
Valeria Smith <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	5403 Tumas Dr. Yakima 98901	rvvgsmith@aol.com	X
Ronald Smith <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	5403 Tumas Dr. Yakima, WA 98901	rvvgsmith@aol.com	X
Jesse Froehlich <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	1001 N 15 th St YAKIMA 98901	tristatesupply@live.com	X
ROGER HATCH <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	1006 ^{NO} 15 ST YAKIMA 98901		
Jay Wellner <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	601 N 33RD ST Yakima 98401	cjzajw@yahoo.com	X
John Gonzales <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	928 Adamsview Rd 98901	gonzalaviche@charter.net	X
JAKE VACHAS <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	26031 25th Ave NE	Info@JakesCosmetics.com	
Jane Smith <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	918 Adamsvlew 98901		X
John Henning <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	2555 Rest Haven Rd		

Yakima County East-West Corridor

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FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> DANNY HEETHER	521 Loranger Ln ^{YAK} 98901		yes
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> CLYDE MACK	917 N 15 th St YAK 98901		YES
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> ORBIA PRIDE	2108 MAYSIE RD		
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> Norm Henderson	184 Iron Horse CT SUITE 100		yes
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> LOUISE HIGDON SISK	2121 REST HAVEN Rd		yes
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> SCOTT HIGDON P.E.	2209 REST HAVEN Rd		YES
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> Dan Church	716 N. 55 th St Yakima WA 98901		
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> MARTY BORELLO	506 Justice Drive YAKIMA, WA 98901		Yes
<small>PLEASE PRINT</small> Tommy Ditomasso	4110 E McILCREST DR YAKIMA 98901		yes

Yakima County East-West Corridor

Open House
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Sign In

FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
PLEASE PRINT Stevens K	5710 TERRACE HSD		
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Yakima County East-West Corridor

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Sign In

FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
<i>Edward J. Ellis</i> PLEASE PRINT	<i>106 Panorama Dr Yakima WA 98901</i>		
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FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
Darryl Jones <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	2809 Pilot Ln		
Anne + Dale Hitch <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	1004 N 15th St		
Ron Knmark <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	2117 Terrace Hts Dr	Ashley Dogs	Yes
Jennifer Poizier <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	911 Adamsview Rd	jenandfelix@aol.	Yes
HAT + Terry Behme <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	3701 Gun Club Rd #179 98901	HATBEHME@CompWRX.com	Yes
Dale Sisk <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	2305 Rest Haven Rd 98901	dale.sisk@live.com	Yes
Phil Cyr <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	1002 N 15th St		Yes
DWIGHT LAURVICK <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	1400 Marsh Rd 98901		Yes
Angie Sullivan <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	919 N 15th 98901	Sullycherry@comcast.com	Yes

Yakima County East-West Corridor

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Sign In

FIRST AND LAST NAME	MAILING ADDRESS INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
Jonathan Stellwagen PLEASE PRINT	2900 Macias Lane Yakima, WA 98901	Jonathan@stellwagenfamily.com	✓
George E. Cosca PLEASE PRINT	P.O. Box 1692, Yakima 98907		✓
Alicemarie H Roper PLEASE PRINT Michael J Roper	205 S 41st Street Yakima WA 98903	raptor.net@charter.net	✓
DIANNE FISH PLEASE PRINT	909 ADAMSVIEW RD YAKIMA, WA 98901	diannefish@charter.net	✓
Belinda Peraly PLEASE PRINT	2305 Rest Haven Rd.		
Floyd Adams PLEASE PRINT	2209 2209 Rest Haven Rd		✓
WALT HOFFMAN PLEASE PRINT	2605 MACIAS LN. YAKIMA		✓
Eric Gillespie PLEASE PRINT	2850 MACIAS LN Yakima	lobo@compwrx.com	✓
Row Berger PLEASE PRINT	238 Rest Haven	rberger@remax.net	✓

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FIRST AND LAST NAME <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	MAILING ADDRESS <small>INCLUDE CITY AND ZIP CODE</small>	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PLEASE SEND ME FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
Lynn Cosmos <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	718 Butterfield Rd Yakima 98901	lynn Cosmos@gmail.com	X
Penelope Paul <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	2205 Butterfield Rd #207 Yakima WA 98901		CP
Bob Washburn <small>PLEASE PRINT</small>	612 N 38th St Yakima, WA 98901		
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